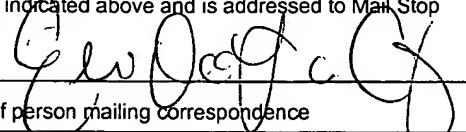


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-------------|--|---------------------|
| Applicant: | John Nieland et al. | Art Unit: |
| Serial No.: | Not yet assigned | Examiner: |
| Filed: | March 17, 2005 | Customer No.: 21559 |
| Title: | INHIBITORS OF THE FATTY ACID OXIDATION FOR THE PROPHYLAXIS AND/OR THE TREATMENT OF CHRONIC AND/OR ATOPIC SKIN DISEASES | |

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, kindly amend the application as follows.